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Indianapolis Colts' Bjoern Werner partners with AYS for NFL PLAY 60

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Offensive linebacker to visit Greenbriar Elementary Tuesday

(Indianapolis, Ind.) – <u>AYS, Inc. (AYS)</u>, Central Indiana's premier provider of before- and after-school programs for kids, today announced that the Indianapolis Colts' Bjoern Werner is partnering with several of the nonprofit's programs in the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township for the NFL PLAY 60 initiative.

Werner, an offensive linebacker for the Colts, kicked off his AYS partnership earlier this month with a visit to the after-school program at Nora Elementary School. **Tomorrow, from 4 to 5 p.m., he will visit Greenbriar Elementary School, 8201 N. Ditch Rd.,** to continue a season-long pledge program that includes nearly 400 AYS participants in Washington Township.

Through NFL PLAY 60, Werner is asking students to take the "Play 60" pledge to eat healthy and be active for at least 60 minutes a day. Those children who take the pledge and show progress in meeting their goals will be eligible to win tickets to Colts games that were purchased by Werner.

"We are so excited that Bjoern has chosen to spend time with some of our AYS kids, encouraging them to make good decisions about what they eat, and boosting our efforts to keep them moving," said AYS President and CEO Chrystal Struben. "He's shining the spotlight on some issues that are important to us and to the kids and families we serve every day."

Werner has committed to visiting AYS programs in Washington Township throughout the Colts' season, so he can participate in fitness drills, visit with students and cheer them on in their efforts.

Werner's partnership with AYS is in support of the NFL PLAY 60 initiative, which is designed to tackle childhood obesity and encourage today's youth to live healthier lives.

AYS offers a variety of services through its before- and after-school programs, early childhood classes and school break camps. Its programs complement school-day learning and primarily

focus on math, literacy, character development and physical activity. The nonprofit's secondary priorities include science and art.

AYS' first program started in Indianapolis in 1980 with fewer than 10 children. Today, the organization serves over 2,000 children during the school year and 500 in the summer. AYS currently has 40 school-age and four early childhood locations in Central Indiana, including eight in Indianapolis Public Schools and multiple sites in Washington Township, Decatur Township, Speedway and Noblesville. For a complete list of AYS sites, please go to https://www.ayskids.org/locations/.

For more information on AYS and its education and enrichment programming, please visit www.ayskids.org.

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